



National
Association
of Home
Builders



September 5, 2017

The Honorable Scott Pruitt
Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20460

Dear Administrator Pruitt:

On behalf of the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) and the Dallas Builders Association (DBA), we would like to thank you and your staff for meeting with Texas builders and developers as part of your State Action Tour on August 10.

Home builders and developers across Texas and the country share similar philosophies and goals as you: to establish sound environmental policies that protect our water, air, and land while simultaneously respecting the rights of states to manage their resources and avoid undue regulatory burdens.

NAHB and DBA are committed to working with you during this critical time for our nation's economy, particularly as it relates to the uneven recovery for the U.S. home building industry, as EPA responds to the President's call for regulatory reform and takes steps to reduce the regulatory burdens that are needlessly raising housing costs for hard-working families. In Texas, it is estimated that for every \$1,000 price increase, over 22,000 households are priced out of an entry level home. Regulatory concerns impacting home prices include the Clean Water Act's "waters of the U.S." (WOTUS) definition, lead-based paint requirements, and unnecessarily complicated stormwater permitting, among others.

With respect to WOTUS, we want to thank you and President Trump for the regulatory relief that will come from fixing the overreaching rule. We look forward to working with you and your staff to develop a new definition that is clear, legally defensible, and limits jurisdiction of the Clean Water Act consistent with Congressional intent.

Finally, in light of the White House announcement that 100,000 homes were damaged by Hurricane Harvey, NAHB pledges to work collaboratively with EPA, other federal agencies, and our members in Texas and Louisiana during the long and arduous process of cleaning up and rebuilding the homes and communities devastated by the storm.

Thank you again for meeting with us and listening to our concerns and recommendations related to federal environmental regulations. Please let us know if we can be of assistance to you in your efforts to implement the President's regulatory reform initiatives, including streamlining the federal environmental permitting processes.

Best Regards,

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2017 NAHB Chairman of the Board

Michael Turner
2017 Dallas BA President